



Bike Edina Task Force: News & Meeting Outcomes

November 10, 2011

Purpose: The Bike Edina Task Force (BETF) meets to serve citizens and partner with City staff and elected officials to promote bicycle improvements in Edina for education, encouragement, infrastructure, enforcement, and ongoing assessment. We support implementation of the approved [City of Edina Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan](#) that serves all levels of bicyclists, connects key destinations including safe routes to schools, and integrates with the Twin Cities' regional bike network. Our **vision** is a progressive bicycle-friendly community where citizens can integrate cycling into their daily lives.

Time & Location: BETF monthly on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room at Edina City Hall. For questions contact Brad Schaeppi or Peter Kelley, Co-Chairs. Guests are welcome.

Distribution: BETF, guests, City Manager, City Engineer, Edina Police BETF Liaison Sgt. Timothy Olson, SHIP contact Robyn Wiesman, and Mayor & City Council. Also, Jack Sullivan to forward to the Edina Transportation Commission, and Dianne Plunkett Latham to post for the Edina Energy and Environment Commission.

- **Present:** Peter Kelley, Alex Johnson, Kirk Johnson, Marty Mathis, Andrew Heyer, Carl Gulbranson, Rob Erickson, Tom Randall, Larry Olson, Don Eyberg, Sally Dunn
- **Absent:** Brad Schaeppi, Carl Follstad, Alice Hulbert, Ellen Jones, Jennifer Janovy
- **Guests:** None.
- **Recorded by:** Sally Dunn

1. New Member Voting

Alex Johnson introduced himself and described his interest in being a student representative on the Task Force. He is in 10th grade at Edina High school. Carl nominated Alex; Kirk seconded. All approved.

2. Tour d'Edina Debrief

- a. Chief Long reported that there were 2 officers at the event. The road was not meant to be intended to be closed, but officers saw a safety issue when bikers began ignoring traffic signals so they waved riders through.
- b. Those at the race indicated the officers did a fantastic job
- c. The group discussed how to improve this type of event in the future. Ideas included: more volunteers, improved pre-event communication with participants, BETF table with handouts, specific instruction on rules of the road for riders.
- d. Other community rides were briefly discussed—Northfield, Chicago, Amsterdam. Question was raised about doing an Edina event with closed roads, perhaps in conjunction with the annual 4th of July parade, or the Homecoming parade on Wooddale Ave.

3. Status Updates

- a. Bike Blvd- Peter reported on status. There will be another public meeting on December 12 where consultant designs will be shown. \$30,000 grant will be used for this. Proposals will be in this Friday. On Dec. 20, there will be a hearing in front of the city council. There was a Dec 1 deadline to get some paperwork into TLC. If all approved, it would go into project planning for next summer.
- b. Road Striping-Peter sent Wayne a list of 4 roads: 50th, 70th, Cahill Road; Valley view from 62 to Antrim road. Next steps are that Wayne will pass the list to the ETC. There will be engineer studies done. The request would then be brought to the City Council. Wayne indicated he can pay for this out of his existing budget. If all went smoothly striping could be accomplished early next summer. Discussion of 70th street being completed and some new material on the roads for marking the bike lane. This would be a good item for the Bike Edina blog.

4. New Business

- a. Kirk Johnson received a project request from a resident that he was unsure how to handle. The resident had apparently been forwarded to Kirk by a member of city staff. Discussion occurred about how to handle similar resident questions better. Should city staff be forwarding calls to the BETF? If so, they should go through the group chair. Perhaps the ETC would be a more appropriate starting point. The task force sees itself as a resource for the city, but lacks the resources

or procedures to handle specific resident request. Discussion of how to gather more information about resident wants and needs. Last survey was done in 2004 or 2006.

- b. Grandview redevelopment discussion: Sally Dunn and Peter Kelley attended planning committee meetings. General scope of the project was discussed. Sally will forward 42 page report to Peter to send to group.

5. General Project Discussions

Over this and the next several meetings the group will review all current BETF projects and proposed projects. The goal is to determine the priority of each project, identify a leader and BETF members interested in helping/participating. These are the first projects discussed. Stay tuned for more in upcoming minutes.

- a. *BETF Website*: high priority for improving communications with community and provide an Edina specific bike resource. Dan Atkins is developing site. Andrew Heyer will lead for content. Kirk Johnson and Peter Kelley will assist. Group also discussed creating a Bike Edina Blog to better update the community on key biking issues and a Bike Edina Facebook page to develop a list of bike friends to support BETF initiatives in the future.
- b. *Bike Rodeo*: high priority. Larry Olson will lead next year's event at Cornelia School. Rob Ericson, Kirk Johnson, Alex Johnson, and Mary Mathis will assist.
- c. *Ride with the Mayor*: Medium priority. Has been organized by Alice Hulbert in the past. Verify her interest in continuing. Alex Johnson will assist.